

Message Text

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44

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 IO-14 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 NEA-10

OPR-02 SY-10 OMB-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 ACDA-19 AID-20 EB-11 COME-00 AGR-20 TRSE-00

SCS-03 SCA-01 DRC-01 /233 W
----- 095849

P R 261230Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY KAMPALA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3249

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY BONN

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L KAMPALA 3217

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR US UG PINT ECON

SUBJECT: GENERAL AMIN'S ACCUSATION THAT APOSTOLIC PRO-NUNCIO
BELLOTTI IS CONNECTED WITH CIA ACTIVITIES IN UGANDA

1. SUMMARY. ON OCTOBER 25 GENERAL AMIN ACCUSED THE APOSTOLIC
DELEGATE TO UGANDA, ARCHBISHOP LUIGI BELLOTTI, OF HAVING
CONNECTIONS WITH CIA ACTIVITIES IN UGANDA. HE SAID THAT
BELLOTTI IS NOT A RELIGIOUS LEADER AND HAD BECOME "BIGGER"
THAN UGANDAN ARCHBISHOP EMMANUEL NSUBUGA. AMIN SAID THAT
BELLOTTI HAD BEEN TRAVELING TO VARIOUS PARTS OF THE COUNTRY
LIKE KARAMOJA AND YET AS AN AMBASSADOR HE IS NOT SUPPOSED TO
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GO OUTSIDE KAMPALA WITHOUT PERMISSION OF THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN

AFFAIRS. BELLOTTI IS ALLEGEDLY "MORE IMPORTANT" THAN ARCHBISHOP NSUBUGA. HOWEVER, AMIN STRESSED THAT HE THOUGHT NSUBUGA WAS MORE IMPORTANT THAN BELLOTTI. END SUMMARY.

2. AMIN EMPHASIZED THAT THE GOVERNMENT HAS "CONCRETE EVIDENCE" ABOUT THE ACTIVITIES OF ARCHBISHOP BELLOTTI IN UGANDA "INCLUDING SPREADING RUMORS." COMMENT: THIS REFERENCE TO "SPREADING RUMORS" CONCERNS AN ORDER AMIN HAD ISSUED AND LATER RESCINDED TO THE EFFECT THAT ALL PRIMARY SCHOOL CHILDREN SHOULD TAKE GYMNAS TIC TRAINING RATHER THAN SCHOLASTIC STUDIES FROM LATE OCTOBER TO 25 JANUARY 1974, THE THIRD ANNIVERSARY OF THE COUP THAT BROUGHT AMIN TO LATTER. WHEN MOST PARENTS REACTED NEGATIVELY TO THIS ORDER, AMIN RESPONDED BY DENYING THAT SUCH A DIRECTIVE HAD BEEN ISSUED. HE BLAMED MISSIONARIES, TEACHERS AND MINISTRY OF EDUCATION OFFICIALS FOR SPREADING FALSE RUMORS. END COMMENT.

3. AMIN ALSO WARNED THAT "IF PEOPLE CONTINUE TO WORK IN ORGANIZATIONS BASED ON RELIGION OR OTHER SECTIONAL GROUPINGS, THIS COULD REVIVE POLITICS, WHICH HAVE BEEN SUSPENDED. HE SAID THAT THE GOVERNMENT WANTS TO SEE "ALL DIFFERENCES EXISTING AMONG THE PEOPLE DIE OUT COMPLETELY." COMMENT: APPARENTLY AMIN IS NOW PLANNING TO DISBAND ALL RELIGIOUS GROUPS AND FROM NATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS ALONG CIVIL ADMINISTRATIVE LINES. IF THIS IS IMPLEMENTED, SUCH ORGANIZATIONS AS THE YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION WOULD BE OUTLAWED. END COMMENT.

4. AMIN MADE THE ABOVE PRONOUNCEMENTS WHEN HE WAS ADDRESSING MEMBERS OF THE CABINET SUMMONED TO STATE HOUSE IN ENTEBBE TO BE BRIEFED ON SHORTAGES AND SPIRALING PRICES OF ESSENTIAL COMMODITIES. AMIN ADMITTED THAT PEOPLE WERE COMPLAINING "BITTERLY" ABOUT THESE MATTERS AND WARNED THAT WHEN PEOPLE COMPLAIN ABOUT THE GOVERNMENT, THEY ARE "NOT TALKING ABOUT HIM, BUT THE MINISTERS." HE SAID THAT THE MINISTER OF PROVINCIAL ADMINISTRATION WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR CONTROLLING PRICES AND ORGANIZING THE PEOPLE TO PRODUCE MORE FOOD. HE SAID THERE WAS NO REASON WHY THE PRICE OF MATOKE SHOULD HAVE RISEN FROM FIVE TO 20 SHILLINGS A BUNCH. HE CRITICIZED THE MINISTERS FOR REMAINING IN KAMPALA AND "FLYING FLAGS AND ENJOYING THEMSELVES INSTEAD OF GOING OUT TO STUDY AND SOLVE THE PROBLEMS OF THE PEOPLE." COMMENT: HOW BRIGADIER MOSES ALI, THE MINISTER OF

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PROVINCIAL ADMINISTRATION, TOOK THESE CRITICISMS WOULD BE INTERESTING TO KNOW. HE IS ONE OF THE FEW UGANDANS LEFT WHO HAS THE CAPABILITY AND FOLLOWING WITHIN THE MILITARY TO POSE ANY SERIOUS THREAT TO AMIN. END COMMENT.

KEELEY

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